

Message Text

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FOR EUR/CE AND CU

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, WB, US, OVIP (LORENZ, PETER; LUMMER, HEINRICH;
VETTER, HORST; AND HAUS, DR. WOLFGANG)

SUBJ: US VISIT OF LEADERS OF BERLIN HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

REF: 75 USBERLIN 2410

1. PETER LORENZ HAS WRITTEN MINISTER TO ADVISE FORMALLY THAT DELEGATION FROM HOUSE OF REPS, CONSISTING OF HIMSELF AND THREE CAUCUS CHAIRMEN WILL VISIT US IN CONNECTION WITH BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION. (WE UNDERSTAND FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT PLAN REPORTED IN REFTTEL FOR DELEGATION TO CONSIST OF UP TO 13 MEMBERS WAS DROPPED BY BERLIN COUNCIL OF ELDERS AT RECENT MEETING FOR REASONS OF ECONOMY). LORENZ INDICATED THAT GROUP PLANNED DEPART BERLIN ON JUNE 27 OR 28 FOR WASHINGTON AND FOLLOWING FEW DAYS OF POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS THERE, WOULD VISIT SEVERAL OTHER CITIES OVER TEN DAY PERIOD. LORENZ ASKED THAT MISSIONS'S LIAISON OFFICER AT RATHAUS SCHOENEBERG ACCOMPANY DELEGATION. HE ADDED THAT GERMAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAD BEEN REQUESTED TO ASSIST IN PREPARATION OF ITINERARY.

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2. DIRECTOR OF HOUSE OF REPS FEST INFORMED US LIAISON OFFICER ON MARCH 3 THAT IN ADDITION TO LORENZ AND THREE CAUCUS CHAIRMEN, EITHER HE OR LORENZ SPECIAL ASSISTANT JESSEN AS WELL AS SENAT INTERPRETER FRAULEIN AMEDINK WOULD ALSO GO ON US TOUR. FEST ADDED THAT IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, PARTY WILL DEPART BERLIN ON SUNDAY, JUNE 27 FOR WASHINGTON AND SPEND JUNE 28 AND 29 THERE. GROUP THEN PLANS TO VISIT SEVERAL OTHER CITIES INCLUDING LOS ANGELES (BERLIN'S ONLY SISTER CITY), SAN FRANCISCO, NEW YORK AND PERHAPS CHICAGO AND HOUSTON. HE ASKED FOR SUGGESTIONS ON WHERE GROUP SHOULD SPEND JULY 4 (PHILADELPHIA IS OBVIOUS CHOICE, HE NOTED, BUT WONDERED HOW THAT WOULD FIT IN WITH CONCEPT OF CIRCULAR TOUR BEGINNING FROM WASHINGTON ON JUNE 30). FEST ALSO ASKED FOR RECOMMENDATIONS ON WHICH CITIES TO INCLUDE AND TYPE OF ACTIVITIES IN WHICH GROUP MIGHT PROFITABLY ENGAGE. HE CITED AS POSSIBILITIES LECTURES IN GERMAN ABOUT BERLIN TO GROUPS SUCH AS CARL SCHURZ VEREIN; PRESENTATION OF AWARDS SUCH AS ERNST REUTER PLAQUE OR HONORARY BERLIN CITIZENSHIP TO DISTINGUISHED AMERICANS WHO HAVE ADVANCED BERLIN'S INTERESTS; PRESENTATION OF BERLIN MEMENTOS TO MAYORS AND OTHER CITY OFFICIALS; ETC. FEST ALSO INDICATED THAT TOUR WOULD END ON OR ABOUT JULY 11 IN NEW YORK AT WHICH TIME GROUP WOULD RETURN TO BERLIN. THEREFORE, TOTAL TIME FOR BERLIN DELEGATION TO SPEND IN US IS TWO WEEKS.

3. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS FROM CU (WHICH SHOULD BE COORDINATED WITH GERMAN EMBASSY TO AVOID DUPLICATION OF EFFORT) WHICH WE CAN PASS ALONG TO LORENZ. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE EUR/CE MAKING EFFORT TO OBTAIN HIGH-LEVEL APPOINTMENTS FOR LORENZ AND PARTY FOR PERIOD JUNE 28-30. MISSION PLANS APPROVE LORENZ REQUEST FOR US LIAISON OFFICER ACCOMPANY GROUP; HIS TRAVEL COSTS WILL BE PAID FROM OC FUNDS. GEORGE

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